

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

Claims 12, 13, 21 and 22 are currently being cancelled.

Claims 1, 4, 14, 15, 18, 20 and 24 are currently being amended.

Claim 25 is currently being added.

This amendment and reply adds, cancels and amends claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After adding, canceling and amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-4, 6-11, 14-20 and 23-25 are now pending in this application.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter made in the Office Action with respect to claims 19 (allowed), 13 and 22 (objected to). By way of this amendment and reply, presently pending independent claim 1 has been amended to include the features of dependent claims 12 and 13 (now canceled), and thus claim 1 is now in allowable form based on the statements made in the Office Action with respect to claim 13. Claims 2-4, 6-11 and 14-18 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1, and thus those claims are also now in allowable form. Also, by way of this amendment and reply, presently pending independent claim 20 has been amended to include the features of dependent claims 21 and 22 (now canceled), and thus claim 20 is now in allowable form based on the statements made in the Office Action with respect to claim 22. Claim 23 depends from claim 20, and thus that claim is also now in allowable form. Still further, presently pending independent claim 24 has been amended to include features from dependent claims 12 and 13, whereby claim 24 is now believed to be in allowable form based on the indications made in the Office Action with respect to claim 13. Lastly, new independent claim 25 has been added, whereby that claim corresponds to allowed claim 19, but rewritten so as no to be

subject to 35 U.S.C. § 112, 6th paragraph (e.g., changing "means plus function" language to "non-means" language). Accordingly, new claim 25 is also believed to be in allowable form.

Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

In the Office Action, claims 1-4, 6-12, 14-18, 20, 21, 23 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over "Designing a flexible services-based architecture for Internet Applications" (hereinafter referred to "Mehra") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,601,233 to Underwood. Due to the amendments made to the independent claims under rejection as discussed in detail above, so that they now include features from their respective "objected to" dependent claims (and any intervening claims), this rejection is now moot.

Conclusion:

Since all of the issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorize payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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